



# TAKE BACK LOCAL POWER

## Repeal Pesticide Preemption in Illinois

### WHAT IS PREEMPTION?

It boils down to power. Right now in Illinois, only the state government has the power to regulate, limit, or ban private pesticide use, sales, handling, and disposal. Meaning a municipality or similar local authority cannot legally limit **bee-killing neonicotinoid use** by pest control companies, landscapers, and homeowners under their jurisdiction or any other pesticide use.

### Why would I want preemption repealed?

For the health and well-being of our children, pets, and wildlife. **Pesticides are toxic chemicals** designed to harm living things and used everywhere in our communities from lawns to inside our homes. Preemption repeal allows your local authority to control the toxicity and amount of exposure to these harmful products for the betterment of you and your family.

### Why would my village/city/county want to repeal preemption?

Preemption diminishes the tools available to local authorities to address the problems affecting their residents. For example, a municipal stormwater commission cannot prevent herbicides, such as Round Up, from running off from private lawns during large storm events. Neither can an authority that wishes to pass a pollinator protection act restrict sales of neonicotinoid products in their community, such as Scotts GrubEx. Repealing preemption returns power to those authorities that know the needs and problems of their communities best.

### Why should Illinois repeal preemption?

Primarily for the human health and environmental impacts mentioned above, but, also, to make a statement that the status quo is unacceptable. Despite its best efforts, the **Illinois Environmental Protection Agency** fails to meet Clean Water Act standards each year, highlighted by the USGS' **most recent study** detecting a median of 25 different pesticides in 1197 Midwest water samples. Clearly, concentrating pesticide regulation power to the state has failed to solve the problem. This is a classic case of needing to act locally, and think globally.

### How can I help this effort?

In five easy steps:

1. Go to [bit.ly/ILpreemption](https://bit.ly/ILpreemption)
2. Download the **petition** and **resolution** templates
3. Create a **Change.org** **campaign** with the petition
4. Select a public official from your community to receive the petition (Mayor, Board Chair, etc.)
5. Contact **Midwest Pesticide Action Center's** Ryan Anderson ([randerson@pesticideaction.org](mailto:randerson@pesticideaction.org)) once the Change.org petition is live to advertise and for next steps.

